



CS/CS/HB 1243 Hospital Conglomeration

- **CS/CS/HB 1243** combats hospital mergers and acquisitions that can result in higher healthcare prices.
- The bill requires hospital acquisitions of physician practices to be reviewed by the Attorney General's Office before they take place. It requires all hospitals intending to acquire a physician practice to report the acquisition to the Attorney General's Office (OAG) at least 90 days before the acquisition is complete.
 - The bill also allows the Attorney General's Anti-Trust Division to review information for any anticompetitive behavior and act accordingly to prevent monopolies.
 - These new notice requirements will provide a mechanism for the OAG to review transactions before they occur and will allow the OAG time to determine whether a proposed transaction has antitrust implications and if warranted, pursue action to prevent coercive monopolies from forming in the health care market.
- The bill also addresses monopolistic practices that hamper access. Specifically, when one entity has a monopoly on all of the physicians who practice a certain medical specialty in one county, the bill makes non-compete clauses with physicians of that specialty void and unenforceable until 3 years after another entity enters the market and begins offering that medical specialty to the patients of that county.